

**2005 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Membership

Rep. James Roger Madalena, Co-chair
Sen. John Pinto, Co-chair
Sen. Rod Adair
Rep. Ray Begaye
Sen. Dianna J. Duran
Rep. Irvin Harrison
Rep. Manuel G. Herrera
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom

Sen. Lidio G. Rainaldi
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Sen. John C. Ryan
Rep. Don L. Tripp
Sen. Leonard Tsosie
Rep. W. C. "Dub" Williams
Rep. Teresa A. Zanetti

Advisory Members

Sen. Ben D. Altamirano
Sen. Joseph J. Carraro
Rep. Ben Lujan
Rep. Fred Luna
Sen. Richard C. Martinez

Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Rep. Nick L. Salazar
Sen. William E. Sharer
Rep. Avon W. Wilson

WORK PLAN

The Indian affairs committee has existed since 1989 as a result of post-session New Mexico legislative council action each year. In view of the fact that the committee's work addresses issues relating principally to New Mexico's Native American population, the committee strives to conduct its meetings in locations that are accessible to the state's tribal members and their leaders. The committee views its meetings as an essential way of relating the work of the legislature to this segment of its constituency. This year, the committee plans to meet at both the Jicarilla Apache Nation and the Mescalero Apache Tribe, at five chapters of the Navajo Nation and at four of the pueblos.

A. The Indian affairs committee proposes to explore and discuss the following topics during the 2005 interim:

1. education for Native American students, including implementation of current laws, the Native American division in the public education department, teaching Native American languages and cultures, lottery scholarships at tribal colleges and defining "rural school districts";
2. health care in Native American communities, including school-based health clinics; the status of Indian health service facilities and staffing; so-called "638" contracts where tribal entities administer health funds themselves; the extent and treatment of problems with illegal drugs; and suicide prevention;
3. the relationship among the state, the Navajo Nation and the federal bureau of Indian

affairs, including concern with maintenance of roads and the impact on rural transportation;

4. revenue and taxation issues in Indian country;

5. the status of funding of TANF programs for tribal entities, including the Navajo Nation and Pueblo of Zuni;

6. assistance programs for New Mexico veterans and members of the military services, including homeless veterans and Native American veterans;

7. Native American art, the authenticity of Native American handicrafts and enforcement of existing federal and state laws;

8. voting and elections in Native American communities, including meeting with bureau of election directors and Native American voting coordinators in counties that are subject to consent decrees;

9. law enforcement issues in Native American communities and the so-called "checkerboard area", including selective DWI enforcement; the status of projects being undertaken by the Native American domestic violence coalition, including the domestic violence initiative; and the involvement of tribal entities in homeland security; and

10. capital outlay, including tracking through the Indian affairs department of the expenditure of allocated funds; streamlining, planning and assessing projects; coordination with the Navajo Nation; and implementation of the Tribal Infrastructure Act.

B. The committee will coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentations of subject matter of common concern.

APPROVED MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 3	Santa Rosa
July 6-8	Dulce/Torreon Chapter/ Zia Pueblo
August 1-3	Gallup/Tohatchi/ Iyanbito Chapters
September 14-16	Nenahnezad/Huerfano/ Upper Fruitland Chapters
October 12-14	Mescalero
November 7-9	San Juan/Tesuque/ Nambe Pueblos